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THE MENTOR

THE
LEWIS AND CLARK
EXPEDITION

By
RUTH KEDZIE WOOD
Author and Traveler

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THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

By RUTH KEDZIE WOOD, *Author and Traveler*



WILLIAM CLARK

From a miniature in crayon by
St. Louis

MENTOR GRAVURES

MERIWEATHER LEWIS

WILLIAM CLARK

SIGNING OF THE LOUISIANA
PURCHASE TREATY

STATUE OF SAGAGAWEA

SITE OF FORT CLATSOP

MAP OF A SECTION OF THE
MISSOURI RIVER



MERIWEATHER LEWIS

From a miniature in crayon by
St. Louis



HIS is the story, briefly told, of the most magnificent adventure in the annals of America. It is the tale of the audacious enterprise conceived by Thomas Jefferson, and undertaken just a century and fifteen years ago by two pathfinders as bold, as wise, as chivalrous, as ever set foot on a trail or paddled an uncharted stream. Born in Virginia, of parents that were Virginia-born, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark had wit, breeding and high hearts for epic deeds. Since the day that Captain John Smith "sailed up the Chickahominy looking for the south sea," the world had been awaiting the information that these two young empire-makers sought—and found. Altogether, they traveled on foot, on horseback and in canoes more than eight thousand miles. Their route lay almost entirely through a land where only red feet had trod before. Another white man had already crossed the Rockies,* but Lewis and Clark and their companions were the first of their race to brave the passes of the "Rock Mountains" within the bounds of the United States. It was they that blazed the trail for Civilization across half a continent. They joined the Oregon Country to the Louisiana Purchase. It was their discovery, together with Captain Gray's fruitful search for the Columbia River in 1792, that ultimately secured for the nation the opulent territory of the Northwestern States and California.

*Alexander MacKenzie, a Scottish fur trader and explorer, crossed from Fort Chipewyan to the Pacific coast through what is now the Dominion of Canada, arriving at Cape Moresby June 22, 1793. De la Vérendrye, the French explorer, got as far as the Yellowstone in 1754. "What Radisson began in 1659, and De la Vérendrye attempted, was completed by Lewis and Clark."

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THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Thomas Jefferson's National Ideal

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, friends in boyhood, future comrades of the trail, were still no more than lads when Jefferson first dreamed of transcontinental exploration.

England planned an expedition to study the geography of the Pacific coast, and Jefferson jealously foresaw a possible intent to colonize that remote quarter of the continent. He expressed his apprehension to William Clark's elder brother, the brilliant strategist and legislator, General George Rogers Clark, and the wish that the conqueror of the Illinois Country, who had been successful in holding back the Indians during the Revolution, would lead a party from the Mississippi plains to California. "Some of us," Jefferson wrote to him in 1783, "have

been talking here in a feeble way of making the attempt to search that country." Jefferson's far-seeing intellect held an ideal of a nation that should be as broad as the hemisphere—a republic under one flag from sea to sea. While in France as American envoy, in 1785, he was disturbed by reports that the French were about to explore the Pacific shores of North America. Opportunely, as it seemed to him, he met in Paris a native of Groton, Connecticut, one John Ledyard, who had been a member of Captain Cook's crew in his Pacific voyages, and, so Jefferson heard, "had distinguished himself by an unrivalled intrepidity." Ledyard, then out of a job as explorer, and restless, was in Paris trying to form a company to trade in furs on the west coast of the continent. Jefferson proposed that he cross Siberia and take passage to Nootka Sound, on Vancouver Island, and from this fur-trading center, in the territory now called British Columbia, begin to "penetrate through the main continent" to the east. Ledyard, readily accepting the proposal, had traversed most of Asiatic Russia and was within two hundred miles of Kamchatka when he was arrested by command of Catharine the Great, Empress of Russia, and brought back to Europe in chains. Later on, Jefferson and the enterprising young rover discussed plans for an American transcontinental journey that was to be undertaken



THOMAS JEFFERSON
From a portrait bust made in 1803



By courtesy of the sculptor, Elton Ward.
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK
From a photograph of the model
for the statue which was erected
at the Louisiana Purchase Ex-
position, St. Louis, 1904

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from east to west. This project was canceled by the death of Ledyard during an expedition into Africa.

But the Ideal was not dimmed by disappointment and postponement. The discovery of the mouth of the Columbia by the Yankee trader, Captain Gray,* moved Jefferson to ask the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia to outfit an exploring party to the country west of the Rockies, with André Michaux (mee-sho), a French botanist and author, as its head. This attempt also failed, through the recall of Michaux by his Government.

In 1801, Jefferson, the practical dreamer, became President of the country he had already served so well. As his personal secretary he chose Meriwether-Lewis, a likeable, efficient young man of twenty-seven whom he had known from infancy, and who had already made his mark as a soldier under General Anthony Wayne. In April, 1802, Lewis was commissioned captain in the regular army.



PORTRAIT OF MERIWETHER LEWIS IN INDIAN DRESS

By St. Martin

This drawing belonged to William Clark, "who considered it an excellent likeness and printed it liberally." It descended to William Clark's son, Mr. Jefferson Kearny Clark, of St. Louis, and is now in the Clark-Voorhis collection. The portrait first appeared in the *Audubon Magazine*, April, 1916.

and familiarity with the Indians, was appointed chief of the expedition for Northwestern discovery. It was given out that the prime mission was to explore the Mississippi. This satisfied the public and masked sufficiently well the real destination, which was, of course, the Pacific.

By a happy accident Louisiana was surrendered to the American envoys in April, 1803. Already Captain Lewis was deep in his preparations for the great journey, the motives of which

The Louisiana Purchase

The Louisiana Purchase Treaty was not yet signed—the idea of parting with the great central basin of the continent had not yet emanated from Napoleon's brain, when the President secured from Congress, in January, 1803, a secret promise to send a party of ten men across French territory to explore the Missouri, "and whatever river, heading with that, runs into the western ocean." Jefferson's secretary, because of his natural qualifications of prudence, woodcraftsmanship, robust health



By courtesy of the sculptor, F. Wellington Tebbel

WILLIAM CLARK

From a photograph of the working model for the statue of the explorer erected at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, 1904

*See *Mentor* Number 163, "The Columbia River."

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were named in the President's Instructions, signed on the twentieth of June. Lewis was invested with the command of the continental expedition. In the words of the lengthy document, his chief mission was "to explore the Missouri River, and such principal streams of it as, by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean, . . . may offer the most direct and practicable water-communication across the continent for the purposes of commerce." Observations were to be taken "with great pains and accuracy." The names of the tribes encountered, the extent of their numbers and lands, their inter-tribal relations, their language, traditions, occupations, arts, laws, commerce, and habits of life were to be recorded, as well as the soil and general appearance of the country, the animal and vegetable life, the minerals, climate and weather. In all intercourse with the natives it was Jefferson's wish that they be acquainted with the extent and peaceable intent of the United States, and with the country's desire "to be neighborly, friendly, and useful to them."

Just ten days after the delivery of the Instructions the nation received the dumbfounding intelligence that, by the unauthorized signature of its ambassadors, it had become the possessor of the whole of French Louisiana.



SILVER LEWIS AND CLARK MEDAL.

Of the Jefferson medallion grade. Three grades of medals were distributed by Lewis and Clark to Indian chiefs en route of the expedition. This medal was found in 1860, wrapped in buffalo hide, in the grave of a chief, at the mouth of Colton's Creek, or Potlatch River, near the border of Idaho and Washington. It is now in the American Museum of Natural History, New York.



In the possession of Mrs. John Clark Vander, Regulated by courtesy of Mrs. Voster and Vander's daughter.

FIELD BOOK CARRIED BY CAPTAIN CLARK ON THE EXPEDITION

The rough elk skin folder protected the notes made day by day by the Captain.

The unexpected acquisition of the heart of the hemisphere very naturally spurred the people's interest in trans-Mississippi exploration. Jefferson now felt free to make his plans fully known, and to increase the number of men that were to accompany Lewis. The latter had already enlisted the cooperation of his friend, William Clark, who was to act as substitute commander in case of need. Lewis' choice could have fallen upon no one more capable. As the Two Captains, the fellow-explorers have been written on the page of history.

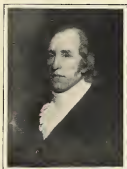
THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION



In courtesy of Mrs. John Clark Voorhes and Chester Harding.

THE ORIGINAL JOURNALS, OR COPIES, OF LEWIS AND CLARK

Showing a note-book opened at the record dated "May 25th, Friday, 1804." The Journals were placed in the keeping of The American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, by Thomas Jefferson in 1816.



In courtesy of Mrs. John Clark Voorhes and Chester Harding.

GOVERNOR WILLIAM CLARK

Painted by Chester Harding, in the possession of Mrs. Voorhes, granddaughter of the explorer.

were freely distributed among chiefs and influential tribesmen. Strings of blue beads, upon which Captain Lewis laid stress in his orders, were deemed by the Indians of more value than those of any other color, and answered "all the purposes of money." Next to the beads, the currency found most acceptable to them was the common brass button, the red-handled knife and the battle axe.

Lewis and Clark Set Off

Laden with small gifts of goodwill from admiring ladies of the capital, and armed with a letter of credit from the President of the United States, Captain Lewis left Washington on July fifth, 1803, for Pittsburgh. There he began immediately to collect supplies and arrange for means of transport to St. Louis.

Twenty-five hundred dollars (exclusive of the men's pay, which varied from ten to twenty-five dollars a month) had been appropriated by Congress, on the estimate of Lewis, "for the purpose of extending the external commerce of the United States." Part of this had been laid out for arms, accoutrements, provisions, medicines, scientific instruments, and fourteen bales of "light and cheap presents for the Indians." The list of arms included rifles, powder horns and pouches, bullet molds, tomahawks, large knives. Among the necessities purchased for camp equipment were tins of "portable soup," rock salt, copper kettles, falling axes, files, "4 Groce fishing Hooks assorted," an iron mill for grinding corn, "oil linnen" for tents and wrapping, tin blowing trumpets, steel and flints "for striking or making fire," and saddlers' needles. Indian presents and objects of barter consisted of a vivid

variety of trinkets, clothing and minor necessities—"white, red, yellow or orange wampum," glass beads, striped or checked "handkerchiefs" of silk and muslin, cheap mirrors, vermilion, tomahawks, ribbons, tobacco, blankets, tin rings set with "coloured Glass or Mock Stone," combs, silver arm bands, nose and ear ornaments, and medals. The latter were of three classes, and



In courtesy of Mrs. Voorhes and the Chester Harding.

WILLIAM CLARK AS A YOUNG MAN
From an oil painting in the possession of his great grand-daughter, Miss Eleanor Glasgow Voorhes

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On the last day of August, after tedious delays due to troubles among the workmen, he set out in a new boat for the toilsome journey up the Ohio River. On the way he stopped at river forts to enlist volunteers from the garrisons. At Louisville he met Clark, who had come from his Kentucky home eager for the venture into the wilds.

At this point, Captain Clark was placed in charge of the river expedition. His associate went by land to St. Louis, and there the party assembled in the month of December. They would have pressed on to camp at the most northerly white settlement on the Missouri, except that they were detained by the commandant of Upper Louisiana until the official transfer of the province, which took place early in March, 1804. After wintering at the mouth of the Wood River (River Du Bois) in United States territory, opposite the mouth of the Missouri, the members of the expedition witnessed the ceremony that formally gave the immense tract to their country.

The party now comprised nine Kentucky frontiersmen, fourteen soldiers that had offered their services, two French-Canadian boatmen, a hunter and interpreter, several carriers, and Captain Clark's huge black slave, York. Forty-five stalwarts were in the party that left the winter quarters near St. Louis, on the fourteenth day of May, 1804. Three boats had been



STATUE OF SACAGAWEA
By Bruno Zimm

Erected at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Mr. Zimm's model was a Shawnee Indian girl on the Wyandott Reservation where Sacagawea lived her last years and died.



From a painting by J. M. Woodhead

THE DISCOVERY OF THE GREAT
FALLS OF THE MISSOURI BY
CAPTAIN LEWIS

June 18, 1805

made ready for the voyage northward, along ways untraveled, into dangers unknown. The largest was a keel-boat fifty feet long, which drew three feet of water and was fitted with a square sail and twenty-two oars. There was a cabin in the stern; in the center were lockers that could be raised to form a breast-work in case of attack. There were, besides, two open row-boats, called pirogues, or "periogues," as the Journals spell it.

On a rainy spring day, hales were finally loaded, the sail was hoisted, sturdy hands seized the long oars, and the voyage of discovery was begun—a voyage "that rivaled in daring and exceeded in importance the expeditions of Stanley and Livingstone; that pushed the boundary of the United States from the Mississippi River to the Pacific; that gave us the command of the hemisphere's rivers and harbors, the wealth of its mountains and plains and valleys—a dominion vast and rich enough for the ambition of kings."

Penetrating the Wilderness

Up-stream during the long summer days toiled the oars, the big bateau (ba-toe) aided in a favoring wind by its hallowing sail. "By the best authenticated accounts," commented Sergeant Gass in his journal, they "were to pass through a country possessed by numerous powerful and warlike nations of savages, of gigantic stature, fierce, treacherous and cruel; and particularly hostile to white men." But nothing in the diaries of any of the men reflected faint-heartedness. As day succeeded day, and they penetrated farther into the realms of the savage, new scenes and experiences enlivened

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SITE OF "CAMP FORTUNATE"

At Jefferson Pocks, Montana, August 17-24, 1805, and July 8-10, 1806.

From this point Sacagawea led the party to her tribe. A cache (storing-place) was made for provisions to be used on the return home, and horses were secured for the traverse of the Rocky Mountains.



A BRANDING IRON

Found in 1902 on a Columbia River island, which was formerly an Indian place of burial. Stamped "U S—Capt M. Lewis," it was used to mark horses and other belongings of the expedition party. The relic is now in the possession of the Oregon Historical Society, Portland.

the banks of the Missouri. In mid-summer the Captains held their first council with the Indians. A few days later, Sergeant Floyd, son of a pioneer Kentucky family, fell ill and died. His was the party's first and only loss during the twenty-eight months of precarious journeying.

The snows of winter sent the party into quarters near the villages of the Mandan Indians, in the vicinity of the present city of Bismarck, North Dakota. Here they spent nearly six months in the shelter of the eight stockaded huts they erected on "a point of low ground . . . covered with tall and heavy cottonwood." The white men were in daily association with the natives, whom for the most part they found hospitable and well-disposed. The larder was stocked with buffalo meat brought in by hunting parties led by the Captains. During the bitter cold winter, when the thermometer sometimes registered forty degrees

the party. They greeted passing boats loaded with trappers and their pelts; they killed bears and elk; mollified unfriendly chiefs; overcame perils of the treacherous river-bed. With ever vigilant pen the Captains set down the information desired by Jefferson. They were equally diligent in carrying into the Indian villages the peaceful doctrines of the Great Father; and tactfully they persuaded friendship with beads and buttons.

Did the pulsing cities of Kansas City, Leavenworth, Atchison, Omaha, Council Bluffs, rise like a mirage in the imagination of the voyagers? They passed the sites where today these busy hives of brick and stone crown



From a photograph by George Bell Grant, made in 1870, when the subject was over 100 years old.

WOLF CALF

One of the Blackfoot Indians who, as a boy, was in a party that had a fight with Captain Lewis and his men, on Two Medicine Fork of Mann's River, Montana, in July, 1806. Two Indians were killed as a result of the fight.

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below zero, a French-Canadian interpreter, Toussaint Chaboneau, and the Indian girl-wife who was to become the heroine of the expedition, came to live in the fort. The natives called Lewis, Long Knife, and Clark, Red Hair. When a baby was born to Sacagawea (sah-cah'-ja-wee-ah) and Chaboneau within the picketed stronghold, Long Knife and Red Hair showed the mother such kindness that she was ever after their faithful servant. She warned them of the enmity of jealous traders from Montreal, and when her unscrupulous husband would have broken his promise to accompany her benefactors, she shamed him into allowing her to ride back to the fort they had left, and by sign language, say he had repented.

Before renewing the trail to the west, the commander forwarded to Jefferson several cases of skins and Indian curiosities, and live specimens of "burrowing squirrels," magpies, and the "hen of the prairie." One-third of the men of the party now returned to St. Louis. Those that went on, numbering thirty-two in all, were Captain Lewis and his colleague, Captain Clark, to whom he ascribed "an equal share in the success of the enterprise"; Sergeants Ordway, Pryor and Gass, natives of New Hampshire, Kentucky and Pennsylvania, respectively; John Colter, who in after years became an Indian fighter and explorer on his own account; George Drewyer, "interpreter and hunter"; John Shields, "an artist in repairing guns and accoutrement"; George Shannon, a youth of seventeen who ran away to join the party, and in middle age became an honored judge; two Fields brothers, "whose peculiar fate it was to have been engaged in all the most dangerous and difficult scenes of the voyage"; a number of blacksmiths, packers, boatmen and hunters; and Captain Clark's servant, of never-failing interest to the Indians, who called him the "black white man," heaped favors upon him, and often caused merriment by industriously scrubbing him to see if the black, like their vermillion, would not come off.



TONGUE POINT

Opposite Astoria, Oregon. On the south side of this "very remarkable knob of land," called "Point William" by the explorers, a temporary camp was made, November 27, 1805.



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the mouth of the Yellowstone, whose name, *Roche jaune*, given by De la Vérendrye, they were the first to anglicize. In this region they met "white bears" of the species known to us as grizzly. The account given by Lewis and Clark of these bears was the first made known to science, and they are therefore called the discoverers of the grizzly bear. This was but one of many strange species of animals, birds and fish that were first described in the expedition journals. After leaving the outlet of the Yellowstone River, the adventurers came to a stream below the eastern face of the Rockies which they called Maria's River, for a cousin of Lewis', just as another river, bowered in honeysuckle and wild roses, had been named by Captain Clark for the beautiful Julia Hancock, the fair-haired Virginia girl whom three years later he was to claim as his bride.

When confusion arose as to the best route to follow through the pathless waste, the company would break up into small detouring parties and separate for days. Sometimes the members of these minor expeditions got lost or had daring encounters that made good telling around the evening fire when all were united again. Arrived at the Great Falls of the Missouri, Lewis' doughty command was faced with one of the most difficult feats of their two years and four months of wandering—the eighteen-mile portage around the seething rapids. Wagonettes were contrived to carry the canoes, and for nearly a fortnight the entire party labored to the point of exhaustion. Yet, on their cactus-torn feet, in their ragged buckskins, they danced in the evening to the tune of a battered violin. And never a complaint is recorded.

When they came to the Three Forks of the Missouri, they baptized the main stream Jefferson, the middle one Madison, and the third Gallatin, for Jefferson's Secretary of the Treasury. These wilderness christening parties were frequent, and many of the names bestowed on peak and stream and fortress-rock have endured until our day.

Crossing the Rockies

The heroic traverse of the mountains was the most critical period of the entire journey. Said Sacagawea in her story, related to Hugh Monroe and set down in recent years by Joseph Schulz, "We suffered from cold, from wet, from hunger. We began to despair. We thought there would be no end to the mountains, that we should have to kill the last of our horses, and then, of course, we should die." The leaders bore testimony that without their pilot's dauntless aid



Beneath the iron grating placed halfway up the side of "Pompey's Pillar," Montana, is preserved the signature carved in this "very remarkable rock" during the side expedition undertaken by Clark to explore the Yellowstone River on the outward journey. The Captain climbed the rock (2,894 feet), and named it "Pompey's Tower" in his journal.



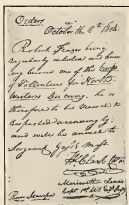
MONUMENT TO GOVERNOR
MERIWETHER LEWIS

Erected by the Tennessee Legislature
in 1855, over his grave, near the seat
of the tragedy of October 11, 1809

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

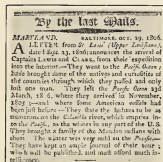
they would almost surely have perished, or would have had to turn back in the mountains without achieving their goal.

After leaving the headwaters of the Missouri, the party approached the country of the Shoshones (sho-o'-nees), the tribe of which Sacagawea, the faithful, the fleet-footed, was a princess of the blood. Crossing the Continental Divide in August, they came to "a handsome, bold creek of cold clear water, running to the westward." And here they "stopped to taste for the first time the waters of the Columbia." On August seventeenth occurred the fortunate meeting with the Shoshone chief, Sacagawea's brother, whose people, though poor in food, were rich in fine horses. An old Indian recounted in after years the arrival of the Americans among these savages of the Snake River. He said, "They carried a beautiful red, white and blue peace-waver tied to a long stick. Their skins were white!" After a period of resting and hunting, horses were secured for the remainder of the journey to the western base of the Rockies. Early in October, hardy mounts were exchanged for the canoes in which the discoverers sailed down the Snake River and the other streams that led to the "Big River of the West Side" and the sea. The way was often dangerous, disasters were many. Berries, fish and dog meat constituted the daily fare. In the latter part of October the monotony of the drudging days was brightened by the first view of Mt. Hood, "a very high mountain covered with snow," and Mt. Adams, its sister peak. Portaging around rock-harassed rapids, trading with suspicious tribes, paddling peacefully under the



From "The Original Journals of Lewis and Clark," by authority of Smith, Reed and Company

PAGE FROM THE ORDERLY BOOK
Signed by both Lewis and Clark



From a photograph made from the files of "The Columbia Centinel" in the New York Public Library

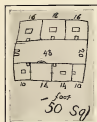
REPORT OF THE RETURN OF THIS EXPEDITION
Reproduced from the columns of *The Columbia Centinel*,
Boston, November 5, 1806

islands that lay like green parklets in the ever widening course of the river, the little flotilla came on the seventh of November in sight of the ocean—"object of all their labors, reward of all their anxieties."

The Return Home

The return home after the dreary winter at Fort Clatsop was not accomplished without its exciting incidents—an attack by Blackfeet, the enforced killing of two Indians, the accidental shooting of Captain Lewis by one of his own party. Much of the way was across a country of "little game, few fish and few roots." But, in time, the broad waters of the Missouri carried them past outlying haunts of Civilization up to the very water front of St. Louis. Greeted with lively expressions of joy and surprise, they learned that they had long been given up as lost in the heart of a savage continent. An hour after they landed, on September 23, 1806, a resident of St. Louis

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By courtesy of Mrs. Julia Clark Voorhis and
the *West's Magazine*

PLAN OF FORT CLATSOP

This sketch-plan of the fort on the Pacific Coast, where the Lewis and Clark expedition spent the winter of 1805-06, was traced by Clark upon the rough elkskin cover of his field-book. In the original it is much faded, and the lines have been pulled out of shape by a fold in the skin; no doubt, when drawn, the walls of the fort were straight.

sat down with pen in hand to write to an Eastern paper, the *Baltimore Federal Gazette*. "When they arrived," he reported, "three cheers were fired. They really have the appearance of Robinson Crusoes—dressed entirely in buckskins." On the same day Captain Lewis rendered to President Thomas Jefferson the first account of the progress of the expedition that he had been able to send to Washington in a year and a half: "In obedience to your orders we have penetrated the continent of North America to the Pacific Ocean, and sufficiently explored the interior of the country to affirm that we have discovered the most practicable communication which does exist across the continent by means of the navigable branches of the Missouri and Columbia Rivers." A valorous report, in truth.

Besides the commissions bestowed upon the Captains by the President, Congress granted them sixteen hundred acres of land apiece, while all their men that made the journey from Fort Mandan and back received three hundred and twenty acres and double pay.

Lewis and Clark, immortal pathfinders, pointed the way to the throngs of settlers and traders that populated the rich country beyond the Mississippi. They laid the track for wagon road and steel rails. To us, each one, they bequeathed a mighty legacy—the glorious Northwest.



From "The Jefferson System," by Edward Gossage. Copyright, 1894, by Harper Brothers. All rights reserved.

ROUTE OF LEWIS AND CLARK TO OREGON AND RETURN

Drawn by David Maydole Hutton

SUPPLEMENTARY READING

*ORIGINAL JOURNALS OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION.

Edited by R. G. Thwaites

THE TRAIL OF LEWIS AND CLARK

By Otis D. Wheeler

*HISTORY OF THE EXPEDITION UNDER THE COMMAND OF LEWIS AND CLARK.

By Elliott Coues

FIRST ACROSS THE CONTINENT.

By Noah Brooks

THE BIRD WOMAN.

By Joseph Schaels

*These volumes are reported out of print, but can be obtained at libraries

*Information concerning the above books may be had on application to the Editor of *The Mentor*.

THE OPEN LETTER

This number of *The Mentor* commemorates the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the departure of the Lewis and Clark Expedition from the mouth of the Missouri River, May 14, 1804.

In the course of gathering material for the article, the author learned that there were living in New York three representatives of three generations of the Clark family—Mrs. Jefferson Kearny Clark, widow of a younger son of William Clark, and now in her ninety-first year, Mrs. Julia Clark Voorhis, a granddaughter of William Clark, and Miss Eleanor Glasgow Voorhis, a great granddaughter. Through their kindness and courtesy an interview was arranged at which all the material prepared for *The Mentor* was read to them. As a result, valuable bits of biographical and historical information were gleaned that are now given out for the first time in print.

Subsequent interviews afforded the further thrill of handling original documents and other precious possessions descended to this distinguished trio from William Clark through two of his sons. Mrs. Voorhis is the daughter of the explorer's fourth child, George Rogers Hancock Clark, who was named for his famous uncle, General George Rogers Clark, and for his mother's family, the Hancocks of Virginia. To this son fell the task of tabulating and arranging much of the priceless documentary material associated with his father's achievements as Explorer, General and Governor. In the Clark-Voorhis collection is the rough draft of Clark's reply to Lewis's letter asking him to join him in leading the expedition; also the original letter written by William Clark to a brother, describing the route of the expedition and some of its results; and one of the two original letters of credit issued by Jefferson to the captains of the enterprise. In that time it was customary for replicas to be made of all important papers to avoid the possibility of loss.

Letters from various Presidents to William Clark during his brilliant career as administrator of the military and official affairs of Missouri are also among the treasured packets. There is a long letter of extraordinary interest, dated 1830, from Lafayette, written in English in his own handwriting. It is addressed to William Clark, Brigadier General and Governor of the State of Missouri, and thanks him for the gift of a grizzly bear cub, the first "that had ever made its appearance in Europe." When the bear grew to full size and its temper developed, Lafayette presented it to the Jardin des Plantes, Paris, where, in his words, it "was received with much gratitude to you, the principal donor, and to me." The fact that Lewis and Clark were the discoverers of the grizzly bear added uncommon interest to this gift. Lafayette also refers to "a precious museum" at his home in La Grange, where other "kind presents" from Governor Clark were "carefully kept and greatly admired." The closing paragraph contains this reference to the manuscript records retained by William Clark: "While I set the Highest Value on that part of your travels and observations that has been published, I must wish the materials which remain in your Hands might

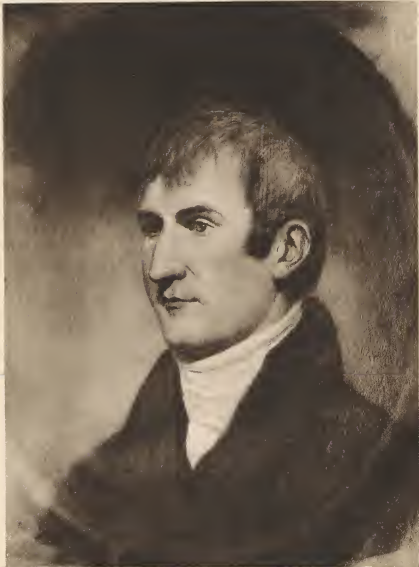
also be given to the public of Both Hemispheres. I wish it not only as your friend and for the sake of general information, but from the patriotic sense I have of the work."

Much of the material to which Lafayette alludes was compiled by Miss Eleanor Voorhis and included among the original papers published in the Thwaits edition of the Lewis and Clark Journals. Many letters and documents relating to the later life and career of the explorer are yet to be given to the public.

In the possession of Mrs. Voorhis and her daughter are the originals of the commissions bestowed on William Clark as Brigadier General, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Governor, and Surveyor-General, and signed by Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe and John Quincy Adams when each was President of the United States, and by James Monroe, John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay when Secretary of State. The original commission appointing him lieutenant in the fourth sub-
legion of the regular army, March 19, 1793, and signed by President George Washington, descended to William Clark's grandson, Mr. John O'Fallon Clark, of St. Louis, Missouri, and is now in the possession of the latter's son, Mr. William Glasgow Clark. A copy hangs on the wall of the Voorhis home above a copy of the certificate of membership in the Society of the Cincinnati, given to William Clark when a youth, and signed by George Washington, as president of this illustrious association. The original is also extant and is owned by a member of the family.

Many relics of the expedition that were housed in a museum built in St. Louis by Governor Clark, near his large brick mansion, in 1818, were later dispersed. Some were removed to England and exhibited there. Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Voorhis and Miss Voorhis have in their possession several souvenirs of the journey. One of the tin boxes made at Jefferson's request for the protection of the Journals is safeguarded, together with records and maps and another prized heritage—the field-book of elkskin that William Clark carried across the continent and back. There is a curious ladle shaped from the horn of a Rocky Mountain sheep that was used to dip soup and buffalo stew from the camp kettles. There are powder horns and guns that belonged to the two Generals of the Clark family. The gold bullion epaulettes of General William Clark, portraits of himself and his family painted from life by well-known artists of the day, the spectacles he used, the sadons that guarded his fireside, the mahogany table that stood in his drawing room—these storied relics have descended to the ladies whose home is so fascinating a link with the romance and brave deeds of other days. The historic teapot from which Governor Clark had his tea at the family board, and gave a cheering cup to Lafayette and many other notables, poured for the author of this number of *The Mentor* an ambrosial cup of many memories, on an unforgettable March afternoon.

W.D. Moffat
Editor



MERIWETHER LEWIS, PAINTED BY ORDER OF THE U. S. GOVERNMENT BY CHARLES WILLSON PEALE.

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Meriwether Lewis

ONE



letter by Thomas Jefferson, dated at Monticello, August, 1813, complied with a request from the editor of the Lewis and Clark Journals to supply "some authentic memoirs of Captain Lewis." The ex-President's account of the parentage and career of the young Virginian is the basis of the following narrative.

A great uncle of Meriwether Lewis was a member of the King's Council in early Colonial times, and another great uncle, Fielding Lewis, became a brother-in-law of General Washington. His father was William Lewis, of Albemarle County, Virginia. Two of William Lewis' brothers commanded regiments of militia—one of them against the King's soldiers, the other against the Cherokee Indians in 1776. Meriwether's mother was left a widow not long after the birth of her son near Charlottesville, Virginia, on the eighteenth of August, 1774. Jefferson says the fatherless boy "was remarkable, even in infancy, for enterprise, boldness, and discretion." As a lad of eight, he went out alone late at night with his dogs "to hunt the racoon and opossum—plunging through the winter's snows and frozen streams in pursuit of his object."

Meriwether went to school until he was eighteen years old, and then he spent two years on the farm left him by his father. When President George Washington called for volunteers to put down the "Whisky Insurrection" of 1794, the stripling dropped the ploughshare to enlist. Afterwards he became a lieutenant, then a captain (at the age of twenty-three) in the American army; and, "always attracting the first attention where punctuality and fidelity were requisite," he was later made paymaster of his regiment.

Lewis came to the favorable notice of Jefferson as a volunteer for a proposed journey to the Pacific. He was warned that he would have to make the trip with but one companion, to avoid arousing the suspicion of the Indians. But this stipulation did not damp his ardor. The plans for the expedition fell through, however, and Lewis became private secretary to the President. Two years elapsed before the question of exploring the far-western waterways was again discussed. When Congress finally gave consent to Jefferson's renewed proposals, Captain Lewis urgently asked to be made head of the party that was to "trace the Missouri to its source," and "cross the mountains to the Pacific coast. Gladly the President acceded to the eager demand, for, in his own words, he had found his secretary "of courage undaunted; possessing a firmness and perseverance of purpose which nothing but impossibilities could divert from its direction; careful as a father of those committed to his charge, yet steady in the maintenance of order and

discipline; intimate with Indian character, customs, and principles; habituated to the hunting life; honest, disinterested, liberal, of sound understanding, and a fidelity to truth so scrupulous that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by ourselves."

On receiving the commission, Lewis began a course of study in natural science and astronomic observation, in preparation for the continental journey which was to span the years—the memorable years—1804-1806.

After his return to Washington from the West in the winter of 1805-1807, Lewis resigned from the army and was immediately appointed Governor of Louisiana. In July, 1807, he entered upon his new duties at St. Louis, capital of the territory. During his two years' tenure of office he administered an "even-handed justice" that won the confidence of white men and Indians alike. Meantime, the country grew impatient for the publication of the records that recounted the results of the expedition. In order to arrange for their printing, and with the further purpose of clearing away a misunderstanding as to the settlement of some public accounts, Governor Lewis left St. Louis in September, 1809, to go to Washington. Taking his way unattended through the Chickasaw country in Tennessee, he came one October evening at sunset to the rude tavern of a half-breed named Robert Grinder, sixty miles southwest of Nashville. He engaged supper and a bed. . . . During the night a shot was heard. Lewis was found dying with a pistol beside him. The report that he had died by his own hand in a fit of melancholy persisted for many years. Evidence later procured supported the belief of the settlers that Grinder's lodger was murdered and robbed. Only twenty-five cents was found in the pockets of the dead man, and it was a matter of local knowledge that "Old Grinder" came unaccountably into a sum of money that enabled him to buy slaves and land.

Brave Lewis, hero of peak and plain, was buried beside the solitary tavern on the old "Natchez Trace," the forest road he traveled to his doom. Forty years passed before the Tennessee legislature honored his memory by creating the County of Lewis, and erecting above the grave, at the center of the county, the shaft that still stands as a silent witness to this even-to-be-regretted tragedy in the lonely hills of Tennessee.



WILLIAM CLARK, PAINTED BY ORDER OF THE U. S. GOVERNMENT BY CHARLES WILLSON PEALE

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

William Clark

TWO

LIKE his valiant friend and associate, Captain Clark had sturdy blue blood in his veins. Both his parents were natives of Virginia. Born near Charlottesville, August 1, 1770, he was next to the youngest of ten children. It was the proud boast of William Clark's mother that she had given six sons to her country's service. An

older son, George Rogers Clark, won a distinguished place in American history as a soldier and frontiersman. With the support of Governor Patrick Henry of Virginia, he made conquests in the "Illinois Country" during the Revolution, routing French, British and Indians. But for his invasion of the territory between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi, historians agree, the region would have fallen to England or Spain during the peace negotiations following the war. Another son of this adventurous Virginia family was killed by Indians when a captain in the Continental army serving on the Wabash. Lieutenant Richard Clark, a young soldier in his twenties, died in a British prison-ship at New York, in 1783. A year after his demise, the household moved from Virginia to the site of the future city of Louisville, Kentucky, where George Rogers Clark had already established a pioneer colony.

William was just a tall, ruddy-haired boy at this time, but he must indeed have been "a youth of solid and promising parts," for in the year 1787 he was honored by a membership in the Society of the Cincinnati, of which George Washington was president. Within a year this lad, "as brave as Caesar," was made an ensign in the United States army. When he was twenty years old he received a commission from the Governor of the Territory of United States Northwest of the River Ohio as captain of militia. Appointed a lieutenant in General Wayne's army, he rose to the rank of adjutant and quartermaster in the regular forces. Ill health compelled his resignation in the summer of 1796 and he retired to live on his Kentucky estate.

Seven years passed, interrupted by occasional visits to Washington and Virginia and to Vincennes (Indiana) on affairs that concerned his brother, General George Rogers Clark. One day there came to William Clark by the band of a post-rider a long communication from Meriwether Lewis, a boyhood friend who had formerly served under his command in the American Army. The letter received July 16, 1803, offered the planter an opportunity to crown his name for all time as co-partner in an epoch-making expedition. The next day he sent a response. "The enterprise and mission," he wrote in his flowing, agreeable hand, "is such as I have long anticipated and am much pleased with. . . I

will cheerfully join you in an 'official character' and partake of all the Dangers Difficulties (subsequent perils well merited the capitals) and fatigues. This is an immense undertaking freighted with numerous difficulties, but, my friend, no man lives with whom I would prefer to undertake and share the Difficulties of such a trip than yourself."

To this letter Clark received a boyish reply overflowing with enthusiasm for their plans and proposed association. It is gratifying to record that the alliance thus formed was never in any respect disturbed, though the way the two friends journeyed from the Mississippi to the Pacific and back again was bleak and hazardous, and, in mind and body, they were often distressed.

On returning to St. Louis in 1806, Captain Clark forwarded his resignation to the President. Jefferson replied by bestowing the commissions of Brigadier General of the standing army of the Territory of Louisiana and Agent (Superintendent) of Indian Affairs. Clark's appointment as Brigadier General was renewed by Presidents Madison and Monroe, and succeeding years brought him repeated official and private assurances of his country's trust and appreciation. For seven years he was Governor of Missouri Territory. In 1808 he married Miss Julia Hancock of Virginia. Their eldest son, Meriwether Lewis Clark, was born a year later. When he was seventeen years old, his father described him in a letter to Thomas Jefferson as "a Cadet at West Point . . . a youth of Capacity and Application." Left a widower, General Clark married a widow, Mrs. Harriet Radford, who was a cousin of the first wife, Julia Hancock Clark. Children of both marriages became in later years well-known citizens of St. Louis and other cities in many states.

For more than three decades General and Governor Clark was allied with the political and commercial affairs of St. Louis, and with the most brilliant social life of the day. In his hospitable mansion he was visited by General Lafayette, by American military heroes, and by other personages of worldwide distinction. When he died at the home of his oldest son, September 1, 1838, he was profoundly mourned as a man of "remarkable personal character, versatile accomplishments, and brilliant achievements."



THE SIGNING OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE TREATY, BY KARL OTTER

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

The Louisiana Purchase

THREE

THE great central portion of the United States, known as the province of Louisiana, was first claimed for France by the explorer, La Salle, who, in April, 1682, took possession of it in the name of Louis XIV. France held title to this mighty domain bordering the Mississippi until 1762, when she conveyed it by treaty to

Spain. More than a generation later, in 1802, Spain secretly ceded back to France the immense territory whose bounds were then but vaguely known.

Ratification of the Mississippi lay the infant nation of the United States. In 1801 its people elected as their third President Thomas Jefferson, a man with large ideals for his country's future, an expansionist of judgment and foresight.

Friction had arisen with the French as to the rights of the Americans to navigate the Mississippi. A letter from Jefferson to Robert Livingston, American Minister in France, contained a reference to these troublesome affairs. "The cession of Louisiana and the Floridas by Spain to France works most acutely on the United States. . . . There is on the globe one single spot, the possessor of which is our natural and habitual enemy. It is New Orleans, through which the produce of three-eighths of our territory must pass to market, and from its fertility it will ere long yield more than half of our whole produce, and contain more than half of our inhabitants. . . . Spain might have retained it quietly for years. . . . Not so can it ever be in the hands of France. . . . Every eye in the United States is now fixed on the affairs of Louisiana."

Livingston was delegated to treat with the French for the purchase of enough land about the mouth of the Mississippi to insure the United States an outlet for her commerce, and was authorized to pay from two to ten million dollars for "the island of New Orleans and the Floridas."

The Peace that had been concluded between France and England in 1802, was threatened by the hostile attitude of Napoleon toward his late enemy.

Along with his other plans to dominate the world, he had entertained the project of rebuilding the French power in America, and in this scheme of colonial expansion Louisiana figured large. However, Napoleon was quick to realize that England, invincible on the seas, could readily seize and hold Louisiana in case of war. Taking a sudden and seemingly whimsical resolution, he announced to his astonished ministers that he would sell, not only the territory about the mouth of the Mississippi, which up to this time Livingston had made little progress in buying, but the whole of the province of Louisiana. The motives that actuated the Consul

were betrayed in his declaration to the Minister of the Marine and the Minister of the Treasury: "The English have successively taken from France, Canada, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and the richest parts of Asia. They shall not have the Mississippi which they covet. . . . I have not a moment to lose to put it out of their reach. I think of ceding it to the United States. . . . Irresolution and deliberation are no longer in season. I renounce Louisiana. . . . To attempt obstinately to retain it would be folly. . . . Have an interview this very day with Mr. Livingston: I require a great deal of money for this war."

James Monroe, appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to assist Livingston in pushing negotiations for the purchase of New Orleans, arrived in Paris a day or two after this astute pronouncement. Approached by Talleyrand, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, the American envoy could scarcely believe their ears. They suspected a trick in the proposal to sell the vast territory of French Louisiana, which included all or part of the present states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Oklahoma. When finally convinced of Napoleon's sincerity, they were quick to recognize the stupendous opportunity thus offered to the nation whose interests they represented. Unable to communicate with their Government before it should be too late, they assumed the responsibility of closing the bargain and signed the treaty of cession, April 30, 1803. Great was the surprise and elation, mixed with some forebodings, when the news reached Washington on the last day of June. Congress ratified the treaty in October. A few months later the Mississippi River became exclusively an American stream, flowing through a realm of untold riches and unknown extent. The area of the Purchase exceeded a million square miles, or a little more than the area of the original thirteen states. By the payment of fifteen million dollars, the nation, twenty-seven years after its birth, doubled its expanse. The new lands stretched from the Gulf of Mexico to the borders of Canada and from the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains. Beyond the Mountains lay a fabulous region which an intrepid hand was making ready to explore.



STATUE OF SACAGAWEA, BY ALICE COOPER

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Sacagawea

FOUR

THE path of Lewis and Clark over the Shining Mountains to Everywhere-Salt-Water was oft-times laid by a girl—a sixteen-year-old Indian mother, with a tiny babe upon her back. The pages of the Journals pay her this eulogy: "In trouble she was full of resources, plucky and determined. With her helpless infant she rode with

the men, guiding us unerringly through mountain passes and lonely places. Intelligent, cheerful, resourceful, tireless, faithful, she inspired us all."

This lithe bronze daughter of the Shoshone tribe had been carried east, as a child of five, by a band of victorious Minnecarees. Won from her captor in a game of "hide-the-horn," she became the property of a French-Canadian trapper, Toussaint Chaboneau (also written Charbono), who took her to wife when she was fifteen. During the winter of 1806, Sacagawea gave birth to "Little Chaboneau," a boy-child destined to go down in his country's history as the first baby to cross the Rocky Mountains and paddle his toes in the Pacific. When the snows of winter melted and it neared time for the explorers to take up the trail again, the trapper went along as interpreter to the Indians. Almost any other mother of sixteen, with a two-month-old baby to tend, would have said goodbye to her husband and settled down at home—if the journey the husband was going involved unknown thousands of miles of rough travel. Not so Sacagawea. An ardent wish to see her own people again called her back across the Rockies to the banks of the River Snake. Also, Chaboneau foresaw the use she would be to the "kind white chiefs," who were already in her debt for loyal service.

In April the party left the earth-houses of the Mandans. Sacagawea was with them. And with Sacagawea, strapped in a sling on strong young shoulders, was Baptiste, the round-eyed papoose. The company had not gone far to the westward when instinct, prompted by recollection of the route chosen by her captors ten years before, gave the girl's eager feet their direction. When forest and snow baffled her companions, the homing instincts of her race led her, unconfused and confident, ahead of the white men. Once, when they were traveling through Montana, a canoe upset with Chaboneau at the helm. Without taking time even to unstrap the child, she retrieved the precious pockets of documents, medicines and instruments. In recognition of her daring and quick wit, Captain Lewis gave her name to the next river they discovered.

The band of thirty men, a girl and a baby, pressing on through the mountains, came during the summer to the country

of the Shoshones. Picture the joy of the young pilot to find that the chief who welcomed them was her brother, Black Bow. Surely, here she might have rested until the return of the white men from their months'-long journey into a strange land. But when they were ready, she took up her blanket and staff. For had they not told her that she, too, was in the service of the "Big Washington"—the Government for whom they were seeking a new dominion?

The brother of Sacagawea (who was called by her people, Bo-i-nahv, "Grass-Woman") sold them much-needed horses—and would have stolen them back again. She betrayed the plot. Later, she acted as emissary to unfriendly Flathead and Pierced Nose Indians; she warned Captain Lewis of a design to take his life; she cured ills with herbs that grew by the wayside, and, through her intuitive knowledge of the creatures and plants native to the country, often saved her companions from hunger.

After the long winter spent at Fort Clatsop, the adventurers turned their faces eastward in March, 1806. Five months' ceaseless traveling, and they were once more among the villages of the Mandans in North Dakota.

Sacagawea told her own story of the trip, when she was grown to womanhood, to Hugh Monroe, a Canadian of good birth, who lived among the Indians as "Rising Wolf." The white man described her as "not tall, rather slender, and very quick and graceful in all that she did." A sculptor, Mr. Bruno Zimm, seeking a model for a statue of Sacagawea that was later erected at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, discovered a record of the pilot-woman's death in 1884 (when ninety-five years old) on the Shoshone Reservation, Wyoming, and her windswept grave. About this time forgotten letters came to light that attested the gratitude of Captain Clark for the services of the trapper and his wife. Faithful to a promise given in 1806, Clark paid for the schooling of their son who, as the "dancing boy Baptiste," had cheered with baby wiles many a plodding day. Baptiste grew up, married and had a son of his own, who often recited stories of his grandmother, and how she blazed the path of the "Long Knives" to the "Big Water toward the Setting Sun."



SITE OF FORT CLATSOP, SIX MILES SOUTH OF ASTORIA, OREGON

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Life at Fort Clatsop

FIVE

IT was on the seventh of November, 1805, that the explorers recorded in their diary their first vision of the ocean which for so many months had beckoned them. Resolved to spend the winter on the coast, the party found a landing-place near the estuary of the Columbia River, and looked about for a temporary camp site. For days

on end the wind blew from the sea (which they refused to call "the Pacific") and the rain fell without ceasing. Bedding and stores were soaked; sails and pieces of canvas, raised to give temporary shelter, fell to bits; the men had scarcely enough protection to cover their beds. They were wet and hungry. "We have nothing to eat but a little pounded fish," runs the melancholy record. "Added to this the robes of ourselves and men are all rotten from being continually wet, and we cannot procure others, or blankets in these places."

Day after day members of the party went out to hunt, but "without success." While the hunters searched the wooded hills on the storm-driven coast for elk, others made salt by evaporating sea water in an improvised cauldron that is still visible. In spare time they mended socks and leather clothes that were by now in sad need of repair. The hunt for game being at last rewarded (one hundred and thirty-one elk were killed during the winter), plans went forward for the building of huts near the places where the most elk had been found. About the middle of December they began to erect the winter cabins on a site six miles south of Astoria, on the "first point of high land," near a stream that now bears the name of the Captains. The logs they used were, in Clark's words, "the straightest and most beautiful." During days that followed they were busy "chinking, dobbing, cutting out doors, etc." Constantly the workmen were beaten by gusts of rain, hail and snow, and "whirl winds" tore down great trees all about them. "Rained as usual all night, continued all day without any intermission," was the burden of repeated entries. Without exception the men were thinly clad, and had no proper protection for their feet.

By Christmas eve the huts were covered in. "At daylight," wrote Clark, December 25, 1805, "we were awake by the discharge of the fire arms of all our party and a Salute, Shouts and a Song which the whole party joined in under our windows after which they retired to their rooms, were cheerful all the morning." Christmas presents were exchanged—tobacco, handkerchiefs, underwear. The Captains received mocassins and white weasels' tails, the last named from Sagawawa. Dinner consisted of elk meat unsalted, "some

spoiled pounded fish and a few roots."

Before the New Year, a stockade about fifty feet square was completed. A large cabin containing three rooms was ranged along the upper wall; along the lower wall were four cabins. The parade ground measured twenty by fifty feet. New Year's Day was celebrated by a dinner of elk, "wappetoe root" and "sour water." A sentinel guarded the fort night and day to watch for the possible approach of hostile savages. The journals kept by the Captains and Patrick Gass, the Irish carpenter, give us a realistic picture of life within the rude little fort, called "Clatsop" for a tribe of Indians that lived in the vicinity. Indians of various coast tribes brought food and skins to barter for blue and white beads, fish-hooks, files and tobacco. Both Lewis and Clark were unremitting in their inquiry into the habits of the aborigines who paid them curious visits. They spent weeks in the surrounding forests observing plants and animals, and setting down painstaking descriptions. On one of his walks about the region, Captain Clark climbed to the top of an eminence from which he saw "the grandest and most pleasing prospects" that his eye had ever surveyed. . . . ocean waves breaking on the rocks of Cape Disappointment, Indian villages huddled beneath glowering promontories, "the meanderings of three handsome streams, the Columbia River with its Bays and Small rivers, high land, innumerable rocks of immense size out at a great distance from the shore." Anyone that has visited the coast below Astoria, Oregon, will recognize the description. The height, now known as Cape Falcon, was called by the leaders of the party, "Clark's Point of View."

By the end of March the scarcity of game became so serious that it was determined to leave Fort Clatsop and begin the ascent of the river. Canoes were made ready, salt was packed in kegs, the fort was presented to the friendly chief, "Comowool," and the last week in the month the party was ready for the homeward journey.

Until about the year 1860, remains of the winter station of the explorers were still visible; also the path they used to reach the beach. Our gravestone shows the site of the fort as it looks today. The man pointing toward the Lewis and Clark River is Sias Smith, a grandson of the Clatsop chief, Comowool.

WRITTEN FOR THE MENTOR BY RUTH KEDDIE WOOD

ILLUSTRATION FOR THE MENTOR, VOL. 7, No. 5, SERIAL No. 175

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THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

The Journals of the Expedition

SIX

THE history of the records," says Dr. Reuben Gold Thwaites, editor of the *Original Journals*, "has proven to be almost as romantic as that of the great discovery itself." More than a million words were contained in the story of the journey as it was written day by day by the commanders themselves and by their sergeants, Charles

Floyd, Patrick Gass, John Ordway and Nathaniel Pryor, and by Private Joseph Whitehouse.

The draught of Jefferson's instructions to Captain Lewis bade him record with scrupulous care all his observations, and to make several copies, for which tin boxes were made as a precaution against the loss of documents whose value would be incalculable. If a vessel should be available from a Pacific harbor, Jefferson urged that two members of the Expedition be sent back by the sea route with a copy of the precious notes, in case disaster should befall the party on the overland journey to the east.

Every day the Captains set down in their field-books detailed facts relating to the country traversed, and their subordinates were encouraged to do likewise. When the party rested in camp a few days, the notes were re-written and elaborated. After arriving in St. Louis, the greater part of the Journals of the two Captains were copied by them into new red morocco blank books. Lewis wrote a prospectus, of "Lewis and Clark's Tour to the Pacific Ocean through the Interior of the Continent of North America," which was to comprise three volumes to be sold complete for \$31.

The pages of the Journals, inscribed in clear, precise English (phonetic spelling was the fashion even among men of the Captains' culture) reflect "the quiet, even temper of the camp; the loving consideration that each of the two leaders felt for the other; the poetic temperament of Lewis, who loved flowers and animals, and in his notes discoursed like a philosopher who enjoyed the exercise of writing; the rugged character of Clark, who showed himself the resourceful man of action and wrote in brief, pointed phrase." Clark was not only a prolific writer, but he was the draughtsman and artist of the party. Army men and engineers of our day extol his maps as models of accuracy. Thanks to the care with which both leaders inscribed their pages, there is scarcely a syllable in the whole record that is not, even now, entirely legible. Said Theodore Roosevelt, himself a gifted chronicler of wilderness events, "Their journal remains the best example of what such a narrative should be."

Very soon after the return of the party, there appeared in book form the diary of the observant carpenter, Patrick Gass, with curious illustrations. This shrewd chronicler ran through several editions in English and French.

Plans for publishing the Lewis and Clark Journals were temporarily halted by the death of Governor Lewis. A few months after the untimely passing of his friend General Clark entered into correspondence with Nicholas Biddle, a brilliant young lawyer of Philadelphia, who had already earned fame as a man of letters. Biddle accepted the task of editor of the Journals. In something over a year the work of transcribing, paraphrasing and condensing the notes was completed, and Biddle's story was ready for the press. Then occurred an unforeseen cause for delay—the difficulty of finding a publisher! More than a year elapsed before two small volumes were finally issued by the firm of Bradford and Inskeep, Philadelphia. Placed on sale in February, 1812, they were later supplemented by other volumes that were revised and proof-read by Paul Allen, a Philadelphia journalist recommended by Biddle. "Henceforth," wrote the lawyer to General Clark, "you may sleep upon your fame, which must last as long as books can endure." On the sale of the first edition of approximately two thousand copies, the publishers received a net profit of \$154.10. More than forty editions were subsequently printed in America, England, Ireland (at Dublin, 1814), and Holland.

In 1816, Jefferson began a search for the original documents—"the fruits of the Expedition undertaken at such expense of money and valuable lives." Two years later eighteen note-books and twelve packages of loose sheets were deposited with the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia for safe-keeping. In General Clark's own possession were several other manuscript journals and a large package of maps. To mark the centennial of the Purchase of Louisiana, the American Philosophical Society determined to issue in printed form the Journals as written by the explorers themselves. By permission of the granddaughter and great-granddaughter of General Clark, Mrs. Julia Clark Voorhis and Miss Eleanor Glasgow Voorhis, this additional material was incorporated in the superb edition of the *Original Journals* edited by Dr. Thwaites, and published by Dodd, Mead and Company in 1904. These volumes embrace, besides the narrative and scientific records of Lewis and Clark, a great number of letters and state papers bearing on the expedition, and the diaries of Charles Floyd and Joseph Whitehouse,—all of them published in full, and exactly as written.

WRITTEN FOR THE MENTOR BY RUTH KEDZIE WOOD

ILLUSTRATION FOR THE MENTOR, VOL. 7, No. 6, SERIAL No. 125

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BRIEF ITINERARY OF LEWIS AND CLARK

Month	Year	Place	Miles from Mouth of Missouri River	Remarks
May 14	1804	Left mouth of Missouri River...	0	
June 26	1804	At mouth of Kansas River...	340	Kansas City, Mo.
July 21	1804	At mouth of Platte River...	600	Below Omaha, Neb.
July 30	1804	At Council Bluff...	650	Not Council Bluffs, Iowa.
Aug. 21	1804	At Sioux City, Iowa...	850	Serg. Floyd's grave just below city.
Sept. 20	1804	At Big Bend of Missouri River...	1,172	Below Pierre, S. D.
Nov. 2	1804	Arrived at Fort Mandan...	1,600	Below Knife River, N. D., on left bank of Missouri, where they passed the winter of 1804—1805.
Apr. 7	1805	Left Fort Mandan...	1,600	
Apr. 26	1805	At mouth of Yellowstone River...	1,820	Fort Buford just above.
June 2	1805	At mouth of Marias River...	2,521	Fort Benton short distance above.
June 16	1805	At Portage Creek, Great Falls, Mont...	2,575	
June 18	1805	At White Bear Islands...	2,595	City of Great Falls two miles below.
July 25	1805	At Three Forks of Missouri River...		Gallatin Valley, Mont.
Aug. 12	1805	At headwaters of Missouri River...	3,096	"Fountain," or spring at head of Jefferson Fork (Beaver Head) of Missouri River.
Sept. 9	1805	At mouth of Lolo Creek...	3,338	Bitter Root Valley, Mont.
Oct. 10	1805	At mouth of Clearwater River...	3,567	Lewiston, Idaho.
Oct. 16	1805	At mouth of Snake River...	3,721	
Oct. 22	1805	At Great Falls of Columbia...	3,873	Now known as Celilo Falls.
Oct. 30	1805	At Cascades of Columbin River...	3,944	
Dec. 7	1805	Arrived at Fort Clatsop...	4,135	On Netul, or Lewis and Clark River, Ore., where they passed the winter, 1805—1806.
Mar. 23	1806	Left Fort Clatsop...		Washington.
Apr. 27	1806	At mouth of Wallawalla River...		Party divided.
June 30	1806	At mouth of Lolo Creek...		
Aug. 3	1806	At mouth of Yellowstone River...		Captain Clark's party via Three Forks.
Aug. 7	1806	At mouth of Yellowstone River...		Captain Lewis's party via Great Falls, Mont.
Sept. 23	1806	Arrived at St. Louis...		

From "The Trail of Lewis and Clark," by Otis D. Wheeler.

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